

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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R 282045Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9696

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL JERSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF

SUBJECT: UN SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS ON RECONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE

REF: USUN 1004 (NOTAL)

1. TEXTS FOLLOW OF UN PRESS SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS ON RECONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE, AS RECORDED IN PRIVATE SECRETARIAT RECORD OF PRESS CONFERENCE. PARA 2 BELOW CARRIES MARCH 26 REMARKS, AND PARA 3 MARCH 27 COMMENTS.

2. QUOTE

"A"

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26 MARCH 1975

OPI DAILY PRESS BRIEFING

WILLIAM POWELL SAID THAT ADDED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S APPOINTMENTS YESTERDAY WAS ONE WITH MR. KELANI (SYRIA), AT THE AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST FOR A DISCUSSION ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE NEXT STEPS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN. THIS MORNING HE SAW MR. MALIK (SOVIET UNION), AN APPOINTMENT BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT, FOR A SIMILAR DISCUSSION. MR MEGUID (EGYPT) WOULD BE SEEING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL LATER TODAY, AT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REQUEST AND LATER THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES. ASKED WHO OF THE UNITED STATES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD BE CONTACTING, MR. POWELL SAID HE DID NOT KNOW. HE SAID MR SCALI WAS AT THIS MOMENT IN WASHINGTON. HE WAS ASKED TO ADVISE CORRESPONDENTS LATER ON WHO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONTACTED IN WASHINGTON.

ASKED THE MECHANICS OF CALLING A GENEVA CONFERENCE, MR. POWELL SAID THAT LAST TIME THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD ISSUED THE INVITATIONS AT THE REQUEST OF THE TWO CO-CHAIRMEN. HE WAS ASKED IF DURING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S CONVERSATIONS THERE HAD BEEN CONCENTRATION ON RECONVENING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AND HE REPLIED THAT OBVIOUSLY RECONVOCAION WAS A POSSIBILITY. ASKED WHY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD NOT CONTACTED AN ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVE, MR. POWELL SAID HE DID NOT THINK THE AMBASSADOR WAS IN NEW YORK.

3. "B"

27 MARCH 1975

ANTICIPATING CORRESPONDENTS' QUESTIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST, MR. POWELL SAID THAT AS THEY WERE AWARE, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD MET YESTERDAY WITH MR. MALIK (SOVIET UNION) AND MR. MEGUID (EGYPT). IN ADDITION THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD HAD LONG TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. TEKOAH (ISRAEL), WHO HAD JUST RETURNED TO NEW YORK AND MR. SCALI, WHO WAS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. (COMMENT: DISCUSSION WITH AMB. SCALI WAS ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT-SEE REFTEL AND USUN 980 AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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981).

ASKED ABOUT RENEWAL OF THE MANDATES OF UNEF AND UNDOF BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL, HE SAID THAT HE COULD NOT ANSWER THIS QUESTION. HE SAID THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL BELIEVED THAT "THE TIME IS COMING TO RECONVENE THE CONFERENCE IN GENEVA.." THIS WAS, OF COURSE, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE CONFERENCE AND IN THIS CONNEXION HE WAS IN TOUCH

WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS THE PARTIES. ASKED WHAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL MEANT BY "THE TIME IS COMING" TO RECONVENE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, MR. POWELL SAID THAT HE DID NOT MEAN WITHIN THE NEXT HOUR.

ASKED WHEN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE SHOULD BE RECONVENED, MR. POWELL SAID THAT IT WAS AFTER MR. KISSINGER'S RETURN ON SATURDAY AND WAS THE RESULT OF VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED.

ASKED WHO WAS INITIATOR OF THE MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE AMBASSADORS, MR. POWELL SAID THAT THE MEETING WITH MR. KELANI (SYRIA) WAS AT THE AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST; THE MEETING WITH MR. MALIK (SOVIET UNION) WAS BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT; AND THE MEETING WITH MR. MEGUID (EGYPT) WAS AT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REQUEST.

ASKED ABOUT THE MECHANICS OF THE CALLING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE BY THE CO-CHAIRMEN, MR. POWELL SAID THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE CHECKED IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S DOCUMENTS ON THE MATTER. "LET US GO BACK AND READ THE DOCUMENTS." HE ADDED.

UNQUOTE
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